

TOWN OF CRAFTSBURY
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 20, 2022
7 PM at Craftsbury Town Hall

Present: Bruce Urie, Jim Jones, Susan Houston | Seth Hayden, Trisha Ingalls, Michelle Warren

SELECT BOARD AGENDA

- **Action** – Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Jim Jones.

- **Action** – Adjustments/Changes to Agenda

None

- **Action** – Approve Minutes September 6 and September 12, 2022

Bruce Urie motioned to approve the meeting minutes for Sept. 6 and 12. Susan Houston seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.

- **Action** – Review and Sign Sapling’s Resolution for VCDP Grant Application Authority

Bruce motioned to sign the resolution as submitted. Susan seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.

- **Action** – Review and Approve Preservation of Birth & Death Records Project

Discussion: to help ensure Craftsbury records are retained and not lost. Get started on project; Preservation Funds cover costs. Electronic records are safer. **Bruce motioned to accept [the Kofile proposal](#) for vols 3, 4 and 5; total \$1,060. Susan seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.**

- **Action** – Review Painting Bids and Select One

Two bids received: one bid for \$19,260 and the other bid for \$26,250. Discussion. Lower bid includes a caveat: painter lacks the required EPA Lead-Based Paint Abatement and Evaluation certification. The other bid – from JM Construction and Painting – involves specialized handling according to lead paint abatement regulations by a certified contractor. References included. Project scope: Town Hall (three sides and top of front). Proper certification ensures liability protection for Town. **Bruce motioned to accept the JM bid as submitted. Susan seconded; all ayed. Motion passed.** Bruce will follow up with contractor.

- **Discussion** – New state grant available: Energy Committee requested this topic. State investing \$45M in municipal technical assistance: providing grants for town improvements, energy assessments of town buildings that include recommendations: up to \$500K to communities to implement new energy systems, weatherization to help maintain historic buildings owned by municipalities. Energy Committee seeks Select Board permission to apply. Susan will follow up with Energy Committee to pursue.

- **Discussion** – Bruce detailed the specifics of a conversation with Susan Clark, author of *All Those in Favor: Rediscovering the Secrets of Town Meeting and Community*. Ms. Clark discussed possibility of Craftsbury being part of the Vermont Civics Collaborative (associated with the nationwide “[Why it Matters: Civics and Electoral Participation](#)” initiative sponsored by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Federation of

State Humanities Councils). Organizers believe town meetings are useful in increasing understanding of and improving democratic engagement; a discussion of local democratic efforts/processes. Is Craftsbury the ideal town for this? How about collaborating with other local towns and holding a larger information session? Bruce will follow up with Ms. Clark about the possibility of a late October or early November gathering with multiple Select Boards.

- **Discussion** – Electricity on The Common. For baseball and other events. Select Board to follow up with Village Improvement Society and other stakeholders for input, discussions, timeframe. If it is to be done, must be done through the appropriate process: add to town warnings, etc.

- **Update** – Document to Quinns regarding town property; Bruce will bring copies of letter for review.

- **Update** – Alan Dawson letter: Bruce will bring to next Select Board for discussion.

- **Administrative** – Use of the Common Form: October 8 -- 4 - 5:30 pm | Katherine Sims, NEK Meet-and-Greet Event for Caledonia, statewide and other local candidates. Form signed and sent. Add to calendar.

- **Committee Reports**

- [Energy Committee](#) – discussed finances; four towns will be using Outdoor Center. Advertising and public promotion (flyers, food-share dinners, etc.) regarding weatherization efforts. Albany, Glover joining Craftsbury efforts; doing 198 separate individual windows. Workshops also opportunity for locals to submit applications. Reaching out to as many people as possible.

- [Planning Commission](#) – will hold its last focus group this Wednesday. Have not been well-attended.

- [Conservation Commission](#) – Ongoing Big Tree big tree contest: seeking more interest in project to measure trees. Knotweed campaign: still working hard to conquer the knotweed. Use of goats to eat it?

- **Clerk Report**

- **Discussion** – Appreciation Certificate for Craftsbury Baseball – group effort appreciation. Send thank-you cards along with it. Send to April Royan and Mark Royan.

- YTD January - August Budget vs. Actual
- Michelle away for 2022 VMCTA Annual Conference Sept 20 & 21
- ARPA Funds: received \$61,556.40; another \$114,212.10 arriving soon
- Casella Quote: 2-yard dumpster \$95 (pick-up every two months), \$55 for recycling (1x month) plus fuel surcharges; at the town garage and have a garbage dumpster there
- [LRWMD](#) (Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District) – plans and discussions with Sandra Gutzmann about upcoming recertification of the Craftsbury Transfer Station; expires March 2023.
- Energy Committee Budget – discussion: window dressers costs; what's been approved, spent and budgeted. Amounts of grants and donations. [New England Grassroots Environmental Fund](#) grant is a large amount. Policy government amounts, budget and stipulations regarding remaining within budget required. The Select Board members said the group should be thanked for the extensive work being done to assist homes with energy efficiency. Select Board must know amounts in question. Town Clerk will provide a final amount and indicate the requisite adjustments for review.

- **Road Foreman Report**

- Hydro-seeding, ditching completed; sprayed. Starting to show green. Better Road Grant paperwork to be submitted this week: about \$20K. Bridge 35 not selected; the structure is not part of a reasonable significant route and condition. Discussion: bridge inspection, black top, ARPA funds, costs.
- Young Bridge Planks – have to finish the hatch part; must be done by first of October. Road foreman on top of it and knows it must be done. Planking to be done this Fall.

- **Upcoming Projects to Keep on Agenda**

- Town Fair in October – Oct. 6 & 7; send to committee chairs
- Mortgage title search , 4 C's with Sarah Davies: doing title search for Care Center; opinion.
- Appreciation Certificates
- Discussion for Oct. 4th - Kelly Carpenter, new dog warden. Discuss position, possible ordinance, job duties. (Tabled until Ms. Carpenter can attend meeting.)
- Sign LEMP – add to next Select Board meeting agenda: update with names and bring to next meeting. (Bruce will do.)

- **Other Business & Walk-ins that have business to come before the Select Board**

None.

- **Decide Next Meeting Date & Adjourn**

Next meeting at 7 pm October 4, 2022, at Town Hall. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Hudson
Select Board Clerk